

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 042289
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY:IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY:IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S-O:KDROBINSON

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P 170227Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3475

S E C R E T STATE 042289

EXDIS - FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL TEL AVIV 2171 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT AMMAN
DAMASCUS JIDDA JERUSALEM FEB 16, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 2171

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, PEPR, JO, IS, XF, PLO

SUBJ: "ACCEPTABLE PALESTINIANS" TO PARTICIPATE WITH JORDAN
IN NEGOTIATIONS

REF: AMMAN 1546

1. REFTEL PRODUCES CONSIDERABLE PESSIMISM IN ME. IT
SEEMS PARTICULARLY HARD TO UNDERSTAND SHARAF'S ARGUMENT
IN PARA THREE OF REFTEL THAT SOMEHOW A FREE CHOICE CALLED
"SELF-DETERMINATION" CAN BE OFFERED AND YET BE SURE THAT
ONE CAN AVOID AN INDEPENDENT, PLO-RUN STATE. PERHAPS
THERE IS SOME SUBTLE PATH AVAILABLE HERE, BUT FROM OUR
SECRET

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VANTAGE POINT IT IS DIFFICULT TO FIND IT.

2. WITH REGARD TO PARA THREE C OF REFTEL. I CERTAINLY
DO NOT KNOW ON WHAT BASIS HE THINKS ISRAEL DID ACCEPT
THE PROPOSITION THAT "SOME MODERATE, NOT-WELL-KNOWN-
PLO PALESTINIANS COULD REPRESENT THE PALESTINIANS."
THE "NOT-WELL-KNOWN-PLO" FORMULATION WAS TRIED ON THE

ISRAELIS SEVERAL TIMES LAST SUMMER AND CATEGORICALLY
REJECTED. THERE IS PROBABLY SOME WAY TO FUZZ OVER THE
QUESTION OF SYMPATHY FOR OR TACIT ENDORSEMENT BY THE
PLO WITH REGARD TO MODERATE WEST BANKERS WHO MIGHT BE
ACCEPTABLE IN A NEGOTIATION. BUT IF THEY ARE IDENTIFIED
AS PLO MEMBERS IN ADVANCE BEGIN HAD MADE CLEAR THAT THEY
WILL NOT BE ANYONE WITH WHOM THE ISRAELIS WOULD DEAL.
I DOUBT THAT THERE IS MUCH PERCENTAGE IN STRAIGHTENING
OUT SHARAF AT THIS STATE, BUT WOULD NOT WANT THE RECORD
TO BE LEFT WITHOUT CORRECTION AS WE OURSELVES THINK
ABOUT HOW TO UNTIE THIS GORDIAN KNOT.
LEWIS UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 17 feb 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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